

IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached three sheets of drawings include amendments to Figures 1-3. These three sheets, which include Figures 1-3, replace the original three sheets including Figures 1-3. In Figures 1-3, the legend "Related Art" has been added.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets (3)
Annotated Sheets Showing Changes (3)

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS.

Claims 1-27 are pending. Claims 1, 5-7, 11-14, 18-20 and 24-27 are independent. Claims 1, 4-8, 10-14, 16, 18-20 and 23-26 are hereby amended. Claim 27 is new. No new matter has been introduced. Support for this amendment can be found throughout the Specification as originally filed and specifically on pages 48-49. It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicant is entitled.

Applicant has amended the drawings and submits herewith corrected drawing sheets.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(a)

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 14-16 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as allegedly anticipated by EP 0 993 185 A2 to Lownes, et al. (hereinafter, merely “Lownes”).

III. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 3 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Lownes in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,815,631 to Sugiyama, et al. (hereinafter, merely “Sugiyama”).

Claims 7-10, 11, 13, 20-24 and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Lownes in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,020,916 to Gerszberg, et al. (hereinafter, merely “Gerszberg”).

Claims 6, 12, 19 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Lownes.

IV. RESPONSE TO REJECTIONS

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

“An image processing apparatus connected to a network, comprising:....

a control section for controlling, when an instruction to temporarily stop the playback of the image data is received, said playback section and said transmission section to stop the playback and the transmission of the image data, respectively, and further controlling said transmission section to transmit a message representing that the playback of the image data is temporarily stopped to said reception apparatus through said transmission line,

wherein the control section establishes a first channel for transmission of said image data and a second channel for transmission of said message.” (emphasis added)

As understood by Applicant, Lownes relates to a television receiver which receives an ATSC multi-program stream for a single major channel and generates a status display which displays the major channel identifier and a plurality of indicators, each corresponding to a respective one of the minor channels associated with the major channel. The

television receiver is also coupled to a digital VCR via a digital communications link. The digital television receiver generates a control panel for the digital VCR on the display device of the television receiver, and includes a facility for receiving commands for the digital VCR, sending the commands to the digital VCR via the digital communications link displaying the current status of the digital VCR.

As understood by Applicant, Gerszberg relates to an apparatus and methods for video teleconferencing with a plurality of parties, as well as for providing multimedia on-hold information. A videophone may be used to view and communicate with the parties simultaneously and/or individually. Link maps may also be displayed indicating the topography of the conference call links. The links may be rearranged and/or otherwise controlled by touching a touch-screen display on the videophone.

Sugiyama relates to a method and apparatus for controlling an audio video (AV) system having a number of AV devices so as to cause power to be turned off to the AV devices upon the occurrence of predetermined events.

Applicant respectfully submits that Lownes, Gerszberg and Sugiyama, taken either alone or in combination, do not disclose the above features. Specifically, the combination of Lownes, Gerszberg and Sugiyama does not disclose an image processing apparatus connected to a network comprising a control section wherein the control section establishes a first channel for transmission of said image data and a second channel for transmission of said message, as recited in independent claim 1.

Therefore, Applicant submits that independent claim 1 is patentable.

For reasons similar to, or somewhat similar to, those described above with regard to independent claim 1, independent claims 5-7, 11-14, 18-20 and 24-26 are also believed to be patentable.

V. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims are dependent from one of the independent claims, discussed above, and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

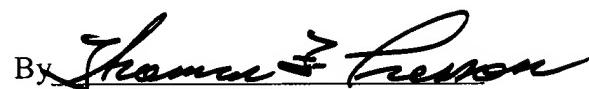
In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicant respectfully requests early passage to issue of the present application.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP
Attorneys for Applicant

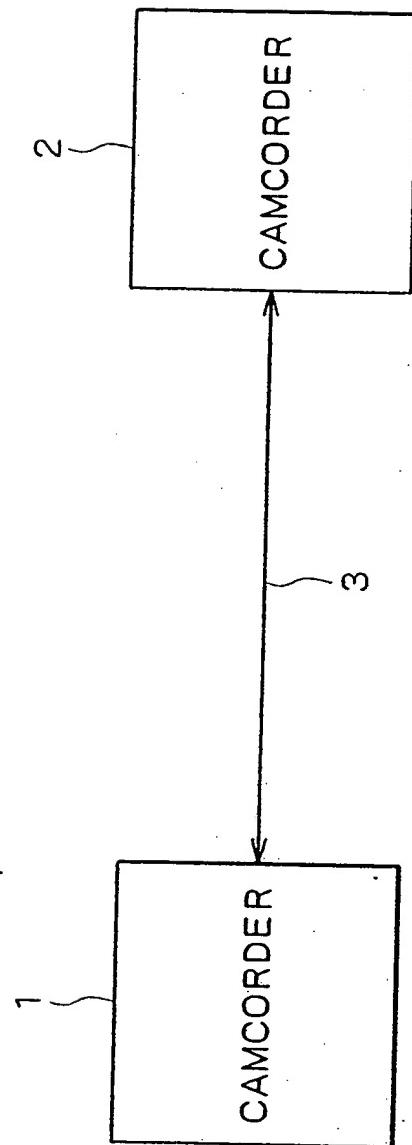
By 
Thomas F. Presson
Reg. No. 41,442
(212) 588-0800

Annotated Sheet



Annotated Art

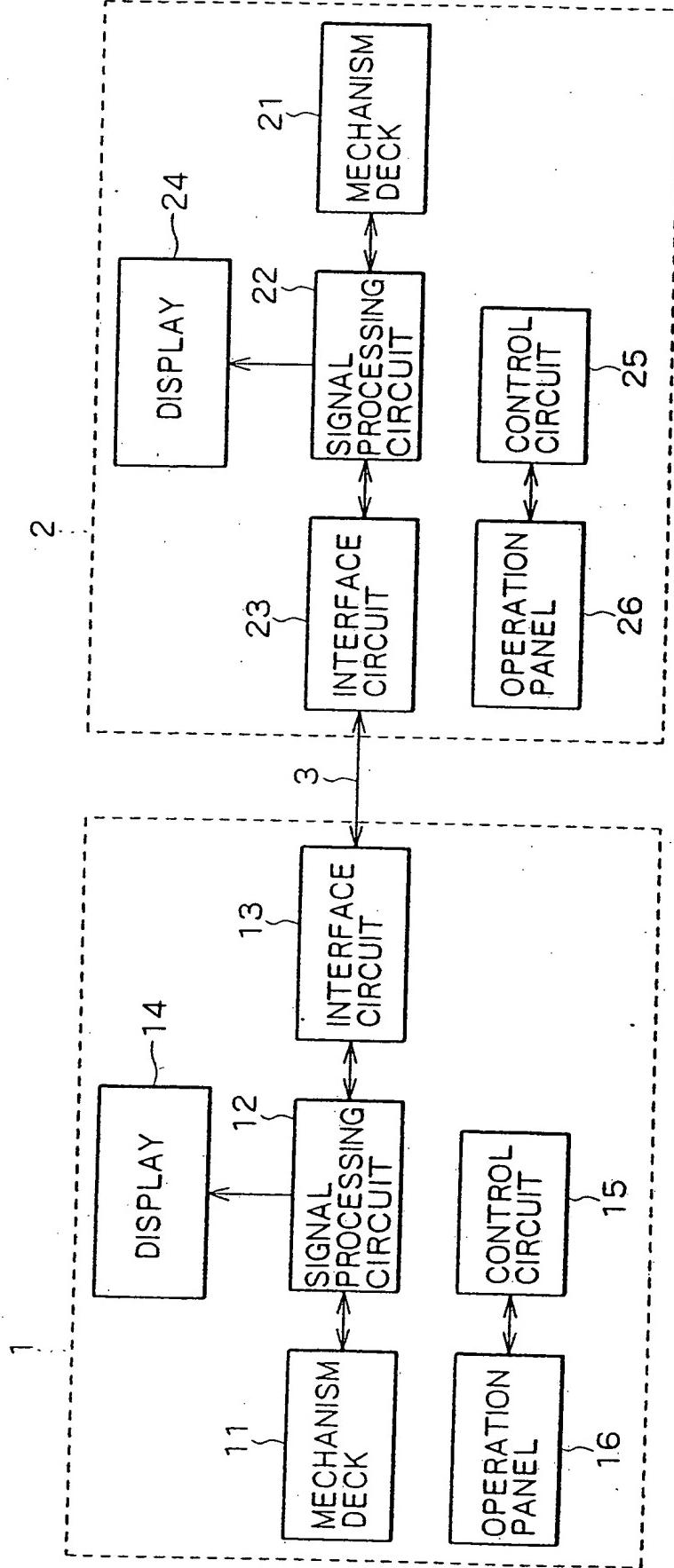
FIG. 1





Related Art

FIG. 2





Related Art
FIG. 3

